

10. NEW ZEALAND COMMUNITY BOARDS' EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: MEETING PAYMENTS

Officer responsible Council Secretary	Author Max Robertson, DDI 941-8533
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The purpose of this report is to seek approval for daily meeting payments to be made to Community Board members in respect of their attendance at meetings of the New Zealand Community Boards' Executive Committee.

BACKGROUND

Mrs Yvonne Palmer was recently elected unopposed as the Zone 5 representative on the New Zealand Community Boards' Executive Committee, through until February 2005. Five of the Christchurch Community Boards supported Mrs Palmer's nomination for this position.

The Executive Committee comprises six members representing each Local Government New Zealand zone, elected by Community Boards within each of those zones.

Since mid-2002 the Executive Committee has been working with Local Government New Zealand and through an agreed Memorandum of Understanding has the status of an advisory committee to the National Council of LGNZ.

Key roles of the Committee are:

1. To provide advice to the National Council on all matters involving community boards;
2. Liaising between Local Government New Zealand and community boards to gather information on issues and matters of national interest;
3. Keeping National Council informed of current and future issues of concern to community boards that may have implications for local government generally;
4. Advising on training needs of community boards and their members that might be included in a national capacity building strategy.

The Executive Committee meets four times a year in the LGNZ offices in Wellington, with travel costs being met by LGNZ.

DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVES

The Executive Committee is currently holding elections for the positions of Deputy Representatives within each zone, and there are three nominations for this position within Zone 5. Two of these nominees are currently members of Community Boards in Christchurch, ie Val Carter (Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board) and Mike Mora (Riccarton/Wigram Community Board). The outcome of this election will be known in early May.

Deputies are being appointed so that if any representative is unable to attend meetings throughout the current term, then the Deputy will attend in his or her place, to ensure that the zone is represented. This will probably only happen once or twice a year or it may not happen at all.

PROPOSED MEETING PAYMENTS

Mrs Palmer advises that all the other zone representatives receive the normal daily meeting allowance from their parent councils in respect of their attendance at meetings of the Executive Committee. The Director of Legal and Secretariat Services has advised that if this Council is of a mind to authorise meeting payments to Mrs Palmer and any other current Community Board member who may be elected as Deputy as a result of the current election for this position, then it is open to the Council to authorise such payments via a resolution passed pursuant to section 101ZZO of the Local Government Act 1974. In each case, the meeting payments will be debited to the provision made for meeting allowances in respect of those Christchurch Community Boards of which the members concerned are current members.

Recommendation: That pursuant to section 101ZZO of the Local Government Act 1974, the Council resolve to authorise the payment of meeting allowances at the Community Board rate to Mrs Yvonne Palmer and any current Community Board member who may be elected as Deputy, in respect of their attendance at meetings of the New Zealand Community Boards' Executive Committee.